

FAMILY
HISTORY
COSPER

C9

THE COSPER FAMILY

Volume I

John Cosper (ca. 1745 - 1820)
and His Descendants

by

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EARLY COSPERS IN NORTH AMERICA

The name of the first Cosper in North America is not known with certainty. According to family tradition, the first immigrant to the New World was John Cosper, a native of Saxony, who brought his wife and infant son, John, to New Jersey in about 1745. This son, John, is the subject of the first biographical sketch in this section.

The earliest record found so far is of one Peter Cosper on a list dated 31 August 1752 of freeholders of Roxbury Twp., Morris Co., New Jersey. A second reference locates a Cosper in Morris Co. in 1781 and a third in Bethlehem Twp., Hunterdon Co., New Jersey, in 1778. Cospers may also have lived in Albany Co., New York, at an early date.

The situation is somewhat obscured by the relatively large number of Casper families in New Jersey and Pennsylvania in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. One Casper family settled in upstate New York while others went from New Jersey to Rowan Co., North Carolina.

Among the several Caspers who came to North America before 1800 was John Peter Casper (Kaspar), age 16, who arrived in Philadelphia in 1740. He was one of a party of Palatinates who sailed from Rotterdam aboard the ship, Samuel and Elizabeth. The similarity of given names suggests that this John Peter Casper may have been the John Cosper mentioned in family tradition and the Peter Cosper living in Roxbury Twp. in 1752. I believe that these three references all refer to the same individual and that he was the father of John Cosper, the subject of the first sketch.

Two other Cospers were contemporaries of John. Jacob Cosper, perhaps a brother, lived in Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, during the late 1770's. In about 1779 or 1780, perhaps to remove his family from frontier danger, he moved south to Cumberland County. He later returned north to the vicinity of Jersey Shore and in about 1800 settled in Venango Co. in the northwestern corner of Pennsylvania, where he died during the winter of 1821-1822. He sired a family of five sons and four daughters and many present-day Cospers are descended from him. A volume covering this branch of the family is in preparation.

The southern branch of the family is descended from Henryck Cosper (Gasper) who landed in Charleston, South Carolina in 1768. He was one of a party of European Protestants who, in sailing from Europe to Halifax, Nova Scotia, was blown off its course by storms at sea and forced to land at Charleston. At that time, free land was being offered to Protestant settlers in South Carolina, so they decided to stay. Henryck Cosper took up farming in the Edgefield District. He had three sons and numerous grandchildren. A history of this branch of the Cosper family is being compiled.

JOHN COSPER, according to family tradition, was born about 1745 in

JOHN COSPER. according to family tradition, was born about 1745 in Amsterdam, Holland, the eldest son of John Cosper, and came as an infant to New Jersey with his parents. It is very possible that he was born in New Jersey to newly immigrated parents. Nothing else is known of his early life. Another source describes him as a native of Saxony. A further tradition is that while living on the Pennsylvania frontier early in the Revolutionary period, his wife and two of his three children were killed in a British-inspired Indian raid. It is known that he was living in the area of Sunbury, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, in 1778. He enlisted in Capt. Hawkins Boone's company in October 1776 and served in the 12th and 3rd Pennsylvania Regiments for over four years of the war. In the years just before his death, he received a pension for this service.

He was discharged at Trenton, New Jersey, on 19 January 1781. On 12 February of that year, he married Martha Biddle in Morris Co., New Jersey. She was born on 14 September 1758. They made their home in New Jersey for the next several years and raised a family of eight sons and two daughters. Around 1808, the family migrated to Derry Twp., Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, where John Cosper died on 23 January 1820. Martha Cosper moved to Ohio with a married daughter and died on 20 March 1840 in Hardy Twp., Holmes County.

The children of John Cosper and Martha Biddle were:

Jacob, born 17 November 1781, died 1830's, married Elizabeth

... ca. 1805, at least four sons and one daughter.

David, born 1 June 1783, died 27 June 1868, married 1) Elizabeth

Erway ca. 1802, six sons and five daughters, married 2)

... ca. 1826, six children with at least two sons and one daughter, married 3) Mrs. Elizabeth (Campbell) Chappell on 2 June 1843, one son.

Peter, born 11 January 1785, died 1860's, married, at least three sons and six daughters.

Abraham, born 21 January 1787, died prior to 1854, married, at least seven sons and two daughters.

John, born 24 October 1789, died 3 July 1872, married Mary Anna Ingold ca. 1818, two sons and seven daughters.

Elizabeth, born 1 October 1791, alive in July 1850, married Amos Britton, at least three sons and two daughters.

Israel, born 19 October 1793, died 15 August 1814.

Elias, born 23 July 1795, died 9 November 1866, married 1) Anne Smith on 16 March 1826, one son and two daughters, married 2) Eleanor Shirt on 1 March 1832, five sons and one daughter, married 3) Mrs. Mary Bennett on 21 May 1844, two sons and one daughter.

Abigail, born 8 July 1797, married ... Sheets.

Daniel, born 3 May 1799, died 9 February 1862, married Margaret Marr on 9 May 1820, four sons and three daughters.

JACOB COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 17 November 1781 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. He was married in about 1805 to Elizabeth ... and shortly thereafter came to Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania. His wife was born about 1788 in New Jersey and died during the 1850's in Columbia County, Penn-

sylvania. Jacob Cospers farmed in Derry Twp., Northumberland Co., and in Madison Twp., Columbia Co., Pennsylvania, for many years. During the War of 1812, he served in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia commanded by Lieut. Col. James Montgomery. Jacob Cospers died in the 1830's in Madison Twp., Columbia Co., Pennsylvania. He raised a family of at least four sons and one daughter. Two of his sons are believed to have been:

John, born ca. 1811, married Lucretia ... ca. 1839, at least four daughters.

Jesse, born ca. 1818, married Sarah Elizabeth Hodge ca. 1849, at least two sons and two daughters.

DAVID COSPER, son of John Cospers and Martha Biddle, was born on 1 June 1783 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. In about 1802, he married Elizabeth Erway, daughter of Conradt and Catherine Erway, and moved to New York, settling near Ithaca where his wife's family also settled. Elizabeth (Erway) Cospers was born on 16 February 1786, apparently in New Jersey. They lived in the Town of Hector in what is now Schuyler Co. for many years. During the War of 1812, David Cospers served as a private in the 1st Regt. New York Militia. He was on active duty during the fall months of 1813 and one year later served as a draft substitute. On 17 September 1814, he was wounded during the American sortie from Fort Erie which was undertaken to break the British siege. An enemy musket ball pierced his left knee and left him partially disabled for life. He was furloughed home and recovered in time. He received a pension and later land warrants for this service.

David Cospers also lived near Havanna and near Spencer, New York. According to family tradition, he was elected sheriff in one of these communities. Elizabeth (Erway) Cospers died on 22 March 1824, shortly after the birth of her eleventh child, and was buried at Burdett, Schuyler Co., New York.

The children of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway were:

Marietta, born 9 October 1803, died in infancy.

Catherine, born 12 August 1804, died 24 October 1892, married

1) Phineas Mills, two sons and two daughters, married

2) Roswell Wakely.

John P., born 16 September 1806, married 1) Elizabeth Clark, at least one son, married 2) Jane Marihan on 1 March 1838, at least three sons and one daughter.

Charles, born 4 August 1808, died 11 June 1872, married Lucinda Weeks ca. 1829, five sons and seven daughters.

Jane E., born 29 September 1810, died 1 September 1888, married John Graham Hendry on 23 May 1830, four sons and eight daughters.

James R., born 20 February 1813, died 31 January 1899, married Mary McKay on 18 February 1835, two sons and five daughters.

Stephen H., born 8 April 1815, died 8 May 1874, married Leno Warner on 25 June 1840, five sons and four daughters.

Rhoda A., born 29 February 1817, married Stephen Dodge on 9 August 1837, at least three sons and one daughter.

Martha, born 3 August 1819, died 30 July 1885, married John W. Cary ca. 1836, five sons and two daughters.

Daniel, born 21 December 1821, died in 1841.

Newton G., born 26 February 1824, married 1) Margarette Knapp, at least one son and one daughter, married 2) Mary White-Wright on 1 August 1875, married 3) Mrs. Leno (Warner) Cospers ca. 1880.

David Cospers remarried in about 1826 and moved to Pennsylvania where he settled near Westfield, Tioga County. He stayed there for about ten years. This second wife died in about 1836 leaving six children the two eldest of whom were boys. Two children of this marriage were:

George W., born 18 June 1827, died 24 December 1893, married 1)

Lucinda Kimmel ca. 1853, one daughter, married 2) Emeline

Kimmel ca. 1858, three sons and one daughter.

Theresa, born early 1830's, married William Smith on 27 February 1848.

Also believed to have been a child of this union was:

Elias T., born 17 February 1829, died 16 May 1858, married Elizabeth ...

After their mother's death, these children were bound out or raised by relatives. In 1838, David Cospers was in Holmes Co., Ohio, and two years later was living with a married son (James R.) in Chesterville, Knox Co., Ohio. None of his younger children were with him at that time.

In early February 1841, he migrated to Auburn, DeKalb Co., Indiana, with his son. He lived in Auburn for two years before buying a farm in Concord Twp., DeKalb Co., where he spent the remainder of his life tending his orchards.

On June 1843, David Cospers married Mrs. Elizabeth (Campbell) Chappell, widow of Asabel Chappell and daughter of Mary C. Campbell. She was born about June 1803 in New York. This marriage produced one son:

Valentine J., born in 1844, died ca. 1886, a Methodist minister, married Ida Margaret Evey on 22 October 1865, one son.

David Cospers died at his home on 27 June 1868 and was buried in Union Chapel Cemetery about four and one-half miles east on Auburn. His tombstone, bearing a flag and shield, reads:

DAVID COSPER
A SOLDIER OF THE WAR OF 1812
DIED
JUNE 27, 1868
AGED
85 Ys & 26 Ds

His widow remained on the farm for a few years and then moved to Carson City, Montcalm Co., Michigan, with her daughter, Susan Viola (Chappell) Campbell, widow of Wesley V. Cospers, and wife of Alvin G. Campbell. Elizabeth Cospers died in Michigan on 28 December 1886.

PETER COSPER, son of John Cospers and Martha Biddle, was born on 11

January 1785 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. As a young man, he came to central Pennsylvania with his parents. During the War of 1812, he served in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia from Columbia County. He was married in about 1810 and sometime prior to 1830 settled near Alba, Canton Twp., Bradford Co., Pennsylvania, where he farmed until his death in the 1860's. He raised a family of at least three sons and six daughters of whom the following are known:

Caroline, born ca. 1825, married William Horton ca. 1845, seven sons and five daughters.

Daniel, born ca. 1827, married Lucy J. ... ca. 1859, at least one son and three daughters.

Shepherd, born ca. 1832, married Margaret ... ca. 1853, at least one son and one daughter.

Also believed to have been a daughter of Peter Cosper was:

Anne, born ca. 1833, married Henry Adams ca. 1850, at least one daughter.

ABRAHAM COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 21 January 1787 in New Jersey and died sometime prior to 1854 in Indiana. As a young man, he came to Pennsylvania with his parents. He married there in about 1812 and reared a family of at least seven sons and two daughters. During October and November 1814, he served as a private in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia commanded by Lieut. Col. James Montgomery. He remained in Derry Twp., Columbia Co., Pennsylvania, until the 1830's when he took his family west. The names of his children are not known.

JOHN COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 24 October 1789 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. He came to central Pennsylvania with his parents in about 1808 and settled in what is now Montour County. During the War of 1812, he served as a private in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia. This regiment was organized at Danville. Sometime prior to 1820, he went west and settled in East Union Twp., Wayne Co., Ohio. In about 1818, he married Mary Anna "Polly" Ingold who was born on 4 October 1792 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

John Cosper farmed in Wayne Co. for several years, owning land in East Union, Salt Creek and Franklin Townships at various times. In about 1835, he moved to Hardy Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio. In the fall of 1841, he came to Indiana and took up farming near Kendallville in Noble County. He and his wife were two of the original members of the Presbyterian church organized at Kendallville in May 1848. Mary Anna (Ingold) Cosper died on 17 November 1865 after which John went to live with one of his daughters. He died on 3 July 1872 and was buried beside his wife in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville.

John Cosper and Mary Anna Ingold raised a family of two sons and seven daughters of whom the following are known:

Elizabeth, born 18 June 1819, died 5 July 1860, married Ezra

Tryon Isbell on 24 December 1836, ten children with at least three sons and three daughters.
 Martha Maria, born 5 March 1821, died 21 February 1896, married Philander Chatfield Isbell on 24 December 1838, six sons and two daughters.
 William I., born 4 September 1822, died 29 September 1897, married Aurora Blair on 31 July 1849, at least one son and three daughters.
 Rebecca, born 12 December 1825, died 16 October 1880, married William Broughton on 24 March 1844, five sons and two daughters.
 James F., born 16 February 1829, died 6 November 1903, married 1) Emma Waterhouse on 6 September 1854, one adopted daughter, married 2) Mrs. Lucy A. (Palmer) Jones on 30 December 1900.
 Matilda, born ca. 1830.
 Hannah, born 24 May 1833, married 1) ... Srayner, married 2) William Broughton on 23 April 1881.

ELIAS COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 23 July 1795 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. When he was about thirteen years of age, the family moved to Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood. In the early 1820's, he migrated to Wayne Co., Ohio and settled initially in Wooster Township. He married Anne Smith on 16 March 1826 in Wayne Co. and at about the same time took up farming in East Union Twp., Wayne County. Anne (Smith) Cosper died on 16 May 1831 leaving three children:

Susan, born 29 April 1827, died 20 September 1833.

Martha, born 14 March 1829, died 28 November 1846, married Israel Gordon on 28 January 1846.

James, born 13 March 1831.

Elias Cosper married Eleanor Shirt, daughter of John Shirt, on 1 March 1832 in Wayne County. She was born in 1809. In 1833, they purchased land in Hardy Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio, and farmed there for about nine years. In about 1842, they migrated to Indiana and farmed near Kendallville in Noble County. Eleanor (Shirt) Cosper died on 9 August 1843 in Indiana. Her children were:

John, born 29 November 1832, died 4 June 1855.

William, ...

Levi, born 3 March 1836, died 11 November 1881, married 1) Mrs. Sarah Alive (Brenner) Cosper on 19 November 1865, one daughter, married 2) Sarah Ellen Barron on 5 December 1872, one son and two daughters.

Elizabeth, born 25 April 1838, died 23 March 1905, married Samuel Brode Butts on 18 November 1855, six sons and three daughters.

Lewis, born 21 April 1841, died 27 February 1863, married Sarah Alive Brenner on 12 April 1862, one daughter.

Amos, born 21 July 1843, died 1901, married Mary L. Leffingwell on 12 February 1870.

Elias Cosper returned briefly to Ohio and married Mrs. Mary Bennett, a widow with a young daughter, on 21 May 1844 in Knox County. She was born on 29 August 1806 in New York. After their marriage, they returned to Indiana. This union produced three children:

Jane or Jennie, born 13 March 1845, died 23 October 1925, married 1)

Charles Henry Wilder on 11 March 1866, one daughter, married 2)

Samuel Scott on 3 October 1889, no children.

Elias T., born 12 March 1848, died 4 April 1917, married 1) Mary J.

Stacey on 28 March 1872, one son and one daughter, married 2)
Sarah L. Moore on 19 June 1884, no children.
Charles Carpenter, born 21 March 1852, died 10 December 1929,
married Amanda M. Dewitt on 29 February 1876, one son and one
daughter.

Elias Cospers moved from the Kendallville area to West Greenfield Twp., LaGrange Co., Indiana, sometime prior to 1850. A few years later, he moved again to Jamestown Twp., Steuben Co., Indiana (P. O. Crooked Creek). During the years 1862-1864, he served two terms as Trustee of Jamestown Twp., an elective office. In the spring of 1864, he and his son, Levi, purchased large tracts of farm land in neighboring Mill Grove Twp., about two miles east of Orland. This farm totaled 272 acres, a large holding for that time. Elias Cospers did not live long enough to witness the development of his new farm. He died on 9 November 1866, and his heirs soon sold the land. Only six of his twelve children survived him. His widow survived him by almost sixteen years. She lived with her daughter, Jennie Wilder near Orland for some years before her death on 31 October 1882. She is buried beside her husband in Memorial Grove Cemetery, Orland, Indiana.

DANIEL COSPER, youngest son of John Cospers and Martha Biddle, was born on 3 May 1799 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. At the age of about nine years, he moved with his parents to Columbia Co., Pennsylvania. He married Margaret Marr on 9 May 1799 at Milton, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania. She was born on 18 July 1799 at Milton. In about 1823, they came to Ohio and settled on a farm in East Union Twp., Wayne Co. near two of Daniel's brothers. They remained in that location about ten years. Around 1834, they moved to Prairie Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio, and farmed there for about twenty years. Sometime during the 1850's, Daniel Cospers returned to Wayne Co. where he operated a general store in Fredericksburg with two of his sons until his death on 8 February 1862. Margaret (Marr) Cospers died on 7 November 1866. Both are buried near Fredericksburg in an old cemetery west of town. The children of Daniel Cospers and Margaret Marr were:

Sarah Ann, born 20 March 1821, died ca. 1887, married James Peterman, ten children with at least two sons and three daughters.
Amos Britton, born 18 July 1822, married 1) Elizabeth Stump on 16 October 1847, one daughter, married 2) Mary Jane Wilson on 17 March 1853, at least one son and one daughter.
Elias, born 19 March 1824, died 12 October 1900, married Eliza McMonigal on 8 March 1849, three sons and four daughters.
Margaret, born 8 July 1826, married ... McLain (or McLennan).
Angeline, born 18 May 1827, died 20 August 1868, married Kenneth McLennan on 3 November 1847, at least one daughter.
David, born 29 October 1828, died 18 February 1904, married Martha Jane Frederick on 5 April 1857, seven sons.
Daniel, born 26 April 1831, died 1 December 1906, married Ann E. Bennett ca. 1855, seven sons and four daughters.

GRANDSONS OF JOHN COSPER

JOHN P. COSPER, son of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 16 September 1806 in Tompkins Co., New York. He remained in New York near Havanna when the rest of his family migrated into Pennsylvania. He married Elizabeth Clark who died in about 1836. This union produced at least one son:

George Mills, born 25 January 1836, died 31 July 1919, married Caroline M. Markle on 3 July 1865, one daughter.

John P. Cospers came to Ohio and settled near other members of his family in Knox County. There, he was married to Jane Marihan on 1 March 1838. They remained in Ohio for several years before moving to northern Illinois sometime prior to 1852. John P. Cospers died in northern Illinois, apparently in the Rockford-Beloit area. The known children of John P. Cospers and Jane Marihan were:

William Wesley, born 8 January 1842, died 30 November 1908, married Elizabeth Hill on 18 November 1862, two sons and two daughters.

Rill, married Levi Bennett.

James Addison, born 30 September 1852, died 19 May 1924, married Kathryn Aveline Young on 18 October 1877, five sons and four daughters.

Also believed to have been a son of this marriage was:

Jason Monroe, born 21 August 1845, died 21 June 1882, married 1) Carrie E. Walling, apparently no children, married 2) Eliza Margaret Burwash on 19 March 1879, no children.

CHARLES COSPER, son of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 4 August 1808 in Tioga Co., New York, where he spent his childhood. In about 1825, he accompanied his family to Pennsylvania where they settled near Westfield, Tioga County. There, he was married in about 1829 to Lucinda Weeks, daughter of William Weeks. She was born on 11 June 1811 in Vermont. In about 1832, Charles Cospers returned to New York and took up farming near Catlin in Chemung County. Following the lead of his father and brother, he brought his family west in the spring of 1844 and settled in Wilmington Twp., DeKalb Co., Indiana. Over the years, he owned several pieces of land in DeKalb Co., but lost the largest in a suit brought against him by Hugh Maxwell, his eldest son's father-in-law. They also lived in Otsego Twp., Steuben Co., Indiana. In about 1865, Charles Cospers again journeyed west to settle near Shellrock, Freeborn Co., Minnesota, where he died on 11 June 1872. His widow, Lucinda, returned to Indiana to live near some of her children. She died on 10 October 1893 and was buried at Hamilton, Steuben Co., Indiana. Charles Cospers was a Whig and Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The children of Charles Cospers and Lucinda Weeks were:

Ransom, born 16 August 1830, died 10 August 1860, married Jane Maxwell on 27 February 1853, one son.

Elizabeth, born 15 July 1831, died 7 January 1887, married John Eakright on 6 February 1851.

Emeline, born 18 September 1833, died 20 January 1921, married ... Manley.

Mary D., born 31 December 1835, died 29 April 1912, married Jacob Wineland on 6 March 1856.
Wesley V., born 16 May 1837, died 19 January 1863, married Susan Viola Chappell on 8 July 1860, one daughter.
Catherine M., born 27 January 1841, died 22 December 1935, married Elezer Luton.
George Hunter, born 2 July 1842, died 14 December 1922, married Evoline Dirrim on 18 February 1864, one son and four daughters.
Lucretia, born 10 January 1845, died 27 September 1921, married 1) Josiah Waggoner on 9 October 1859, married 2) Henry Gurtner on 31 January 1886.
Sarah Amy, born 21 April 1847, died 4 July 1920, married 1) William E. Cochran on 21 August 1864, married 2) ... Landis.
James S., born 11 June 1850, died 7 June 1935, married 1), one son, married 2) Mrs. Basha Artz, married 3) Mrs. Maggie E. Price on 5 July 1913.
Martha Anna, born 17 January 1852, died 24 February 1944, married John Langley on 19 November 1871, at least one daughter.
Charles Henry, born 6 September 1855, died 25 December 1933.

JOHN COSPER, believed to have been the son of Jacob and Elizabeth Cosper, was born about 1811 in Pennsylvania, probably in Derry Twp., Northumberland County. In 1840, he was living in Madison Twp., Columbia Co., Pennsylvania, and in 1850 in Greenwood Township. His wife, Lucretia, was born about 1811 in Pennsylvania. They were married about 1839. Their known children were:

Mary E., born ca. 1840.
Anna, born ca. 1841.
Lucy J., born ca. 1844.
Sarah, born ca. June 1850.

JAMES R. COSPER, son of David Cosper and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 20 February 1813 in the Town of Hector, Tompkins Co., New York. After his mother's death in 1824, he moved with his father to Westfield in Tioga Co., Pennsylvania. In his youth, he learned the carpenter's trade. Sometime after 1830, he returned to Tioga Co., New York, where he married Mary McKay, daughter of John and Mary McKay, on 18 February 1835. She was born on 27 September 1818 in Ireland. In May 1835, they went west and settled in Chesterville, Knox (now Morrow) Co., Ohio, where James plied his trade for the next six years. They sold their home in Chesterville in January 1841, and on 4 February set out by wagon for Auburn, Indiana, arriving there on the 13th. James R. Cosper worked in Auburn, where he was the first resident carpenter, until November 1841 when he took up farming in the southeastern corner of Union Twp., DeKalb Co., about four and one-half miles east of Auburn. He cleared his land and put up his own buildings only to be burned out in 1850. He rebuilt and continued as a prosperous farmer. In 1844, he donated land for erection of a church near his home. During his long residence in DeKalb Co., James R. Cosper served as Township Trustee, Justice of the Peace and President of the Pioneers Association. Mary (McKay) Cosper died

on 29 April 1889. James sold part of his farm and divided the rest among his surviving children and a grandson and went to live with his daughter in Auburn. He died at Auburn on 31 January 1899 and was buried beside his wife in Union Chapel Cemetery which he had created on his farm for his family and neighbors. The children of James R. Cospers and Mary McKay were:

Margaret Jane, born 17 April 1836, died 8 April 1837.

Mary, born 27 January 1838, died 28 January 1838.

James Saxby, born 12 January 1839, died 16 May 1863, one son.

Ann Z., born 17 September 1841, married William Henry McIntosh on 21 April 1864, one son and one daughter.

~~Mildred L., born 27 July 1844, died 12 December 1866, married~~

~~Herman Peter Colgrove on 3 July 1859, two children.~~

Florence M., born 23 April 1847, married Herman Peter Colgrove on 11 October 1868.

Byron Alexander, born 27 July 1849, died in 1916, married 1)

Mahala Alice Cobler on 29 August 1874, two sons and two

daughters, married 2) Mrs. Lydia A. (Hopkins) Lowman on 19

August 1886, at least four sons and four daughters.

STEPHEN H. COSPER, son of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 8 April 1815 in the Town of Hector, Tompkins Co., New York. When he was about ten years of age, the family moved to Tioga Co., Pennsylvania, where they stayed about ten years. In the late 1830's, Stephen H. Cospers followed others of his family to central Ohio. He married Leno Warner, believed to have been the daughter of Benjamin G. Warner and his wife, Ruth, on 25 June 1840 in Delaware Co., Ohio. She was born about 1823 in Ohio. Sometime prior to 1850, they located in Chesterville, Morrow Co., where Stephen had taken over his brother's carpentry business. They also owned land in Harmony, Franklin, and Chester Townships in Morrow County. They bought farm land in DeKalb Co., Indiana, but failed to follow the rest of the Cospers there. In 1855, they sold out and headed north to Michigan. Stephen H. Cospers bought land just south of the village of Eureka in Clinton County. They remained there for ten or eleven years before moving on to the newly opened public land of western Michigan. They homesteaded a quarter section in Blue Lake Twp., (P. O. Whitehall), Muskegon Co., Michigan, first clearing land in 1866. In 1871, the family moved again and settled near Cedar Springs in neighboring Kent County. Stephen H. Cospers died on 8 May 1874 and was buried in Cedar Springs Cemetery. Leno (Warner) Cospers survived her husband by several years. She married Newton G. Cospers, her husband's younger brother, in the late 1870's and lived in Ensley Twp., Newaygo Co., Michigan. She was buried at Cedar Springs. The children of Stephen H. Cospers and Leno Warner were:

Charlotte J., born in 1841, alive in July 1900, married Hiram Coffman on 1 July 1858, at least three sons and one daughter.

Martha J., born ca. 1843, married 1) ... Gardner, married 2) Ezra Caster, had children by one or both husbands.

Thomas Merit, born 28 January 1845, died 28 March 1919, married Delphina M. Caster on 1 January 1866, one son and five daughters and one adopted son.

COSPER CEMETERY

Cyrus Bailey
(War 1861)
(Dilgarde & Cline Funeral
Home)

Emanuel son of A. & S. J.
Baughman
d. Oct. 4, 1876
a. 2 y. 5 m. 5 d.

Isaac Beeman
(War 1861)
(Dilgarde & Cline Funeral
Home)

Eliza Brown
1824-1904

John Brown
d. Feb. 10, 1898
a. 77 y. 7 d.

Eckson son of W.B. & E.
Burton
(Died a Soldier)
d. Feb. 8, 1862
a. 18 y. 27 d.

Walter Burton
d. Jan. 6, 1871
a. 77 y. 7 m. 20 d.

Alda Viola dau of J. & S.
Carper
d. Oct. 14, 1886
a. 14 y. 7 m. 20 d.

Franklin D. son of M.E. &
G.W. Carper
d. Mar. 29, 1886
a. 9 m. 1 d.
Three infant children of M.E.
& G.W. Carper
Mary E. wife of G.W. Carper
d. Feb. 28, 1892
a. 28 y. 5 m. 3 d.

John Carper
d. Oct. 26, 1895
a. 62 y. 4 m. 7 d.
Sarah his wife
1835-1924

David Cosper
d. June 27, 1868
a. 85 y. 26 d.

James R. Cosper
1813-1893
Mary McKay his wife
1815-1889

Mahala A. Cosper
d. July 21, 1881
a. 24 y. 3 m. 11 d.

James A. Cosper
d. Aug. 13, 1881
a. 1 m. 19 d.

Mary M. Cosper
d. Sept. 1, 1881
a. 2 m. 7 d.

Freeman son of J.C. & M. Cramer
1874-1889

Luther A. son of J. & A. Drury
d. Sept. 29, 1856
a. 12 y.

Lucy Bell dau of D.D. & E.
Eldridor
d. Oct. 1835
a. 2 y. 3 m. 26 d.
And infant twins, son and
daughter

Charles Grimm
b. Dec. 20, 1815
d. Sept. 7, 1891
Mary Grimm
b. May 5, 1821
d. Oct. 17, 1899

Son of D. & S. Hartgrove
d. June 7, 1875
a. 8 m. 23 d.

Margaret dau of V. & M. Hay
d. Aug 7, 1848

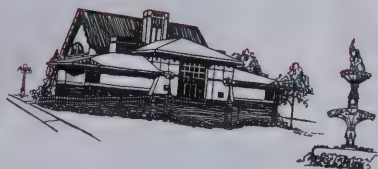
Valentine Hay
d. Apr. 10, 1858
a. 72 y. 10 m. 24 d.

Cosper, David R., *The Cosper Family. Volume I. John Cosper (ca. 1745 - 1820) and His Descendants* (1972)

ERRATA

- pg. 4, ln. 37: reads "... died 15 August 1814."
should be "... died 14 August 1814."
- pg. 4, ln. 44: reads "... died 9 February 1862."
should be "... died 8 February 1862."
- pg. 5, ln. 36: reads "... 2) Roswell Wakely."
should be "... 2) Roswell Wakly."
- pg. 6, ln. 5 and 6: reads "... 2) Mary White-Wright."
should be "... 2) Mary Whitewright."
- pg. 7, ln. 47: reads "... born 18 June 1819, ..."
should be "... born 18 May 1819, ..."
- pg. 6, ln. 30: reads "... On June 1843 ..."
should be "... On 2 June 1843 ..."
- pg. 8, ln. 10: reads "... born 16 February 1829, ..."
should be "... born 19 February 1829, ..."
- pg. 8, ln. 42: reads "... died 27 February 1863, ..."
should be "... died 17 or 18 February 1863 ..."
- pg. 8, ln. 43: reads "...on 12 April 1862, ..."
should be "... on 12 August 1862 ..."
- pg. 8, ln. 53: reads "... born 12 March 1848, ..."
should be "... born 12 May 1848, ..."
- pg. 9, ln. 23: reads "... on 9 May 1799 at Milton, ..."
should be "... on 9 May 1820 at Milton, ..."
- pg. 13, ln. 14: reads "... on 16 September 1878, ..."
should be "... on 16 September 1877, ..."
- pg. 13, ln. 44: reads "... Annette Co., born ..."
should be "... Annette C., born ..."
- pg. 16, ln. 48: reads "... on May 1842 ..."
should be "... on 3 May 1842 ..."
- pg. 18, ln. 35: reads "... died 4 May 1928, ..."
should be "... died 18 May 1928, ..."

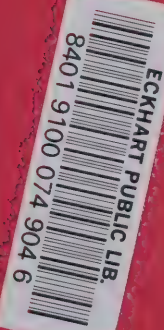
- pg. 19, ln. 15: reads "... on 19 February 1889, ..."
should be "... on 20 February 1889, ..."
- pg. 19, ln. 25: reads "... on 30 September 1899, ..."
should be "... on 20 September 1899, ..."
- pg. 22, ln. 17: reads "... and one daughter."
should be "... and two daughters."
- pg. 23, ln. 7: reads "... 18 January 1863."
should be "... 19 January 1863."
- pg. 23, ln. 8: reads "... on 20 December 1867 ..."
should be "... on 30 December 1867 ..."
- pg. 25, ln. 13: reads "... on 21 February 1846 ..."
should be "... on 24 February 1846 ..."
- pg. 26, ln. 20: reads "... homesteaded eight acres ..."
should be "... homesteaded eighty acres ..."
- pg. 27, ln. 11: reads "... after they marriage ..."
should be "... after their marriage ..."
- pg. 27, ln. 41: reads "...on 8 July 1908, ..."
should be "... on 7 July 1908, ..."
- pg. 27, ln. 46: reads "... on 27 August 1874, ..."
should be "... on 29 August 1874, ..."
- pg. 29, ln. 16: reads "... on September 1852 ..."
should be "... on 30 September 1852 ..."
- pg. 29, ln. 45: reads "... on January 1920 ..."
should be "... on 9 January 1920 ..."
- pg. 31, ln. 1: reads "... at Bismark, ..."
should be "... at Bismarck, ..."
- pg. 33, ln. 12: reads "... Robert Guenin."
should be "... Robert Cuenin."



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January 1785 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. As a young man, he came to central Pennsylvania with his parents. During the War of 1812, he served in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia from Columbia County. He was married in about 1810 and sometime prior to 1830 settled near Alba, Canton Twp., Bradford Co., Pennsylvania, where he farmed until his death in the 1860's. He raised a family of at least three sons and six daughters of whom the following are known:

Caroline, born ca. 1825, married William Horton ca. 1845, seven sons and five daughters.

Daniel, born ca. 1827, married Lucy J. ... ca. 1859, at least one son and three daughters.

Shepherd, born ca. 1832, married Margaret ... ca. 1853, at least one son and one daughter.

Also believed to have been a daughter of Peter Cosper was:

Anne, born ca. 1833, married Henry Adams ca. 1850, at least one daughter.

ABRAHAM COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 21 January 1787 in New Jersey and died sometime prior to 1854 in Indiana. As a young man, he came to Pennsylvania with his parents. He married there in about 1812 and reared a family of at least seven sons and two daughters. During October and November 1814, he served as a private in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia commanded by Lieut. Col. James Montgomery. He remained in Derry Twp., Columbia Co., Pennsylvania, until the 1830's when he took his family west. The names of his children are not known.

JOHN COSPER, son of John Cosper and Martha Biddle, was born on 24 October 1789 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. He came to central Pennsylvania with his parents in about 1808 and settled in what is now Montour County. During the War of 1812, he served as a private in Capt. Benjamin Bond's company of the 81st Regt. Pennsylvania Militia. This regiment was organized at Danville. Sometime prior to 1820, he went west and settled in East Union Twp., Wayne Co., Ohio. In about 1818, he married Mary Anna "Polly" Ingold who was born on 4 October 1792 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

John Cosper farmed in Wayne Co. for several years, owning land in East Union, Salt Creek and Franklin Townships at various times. In about 1835, he moved to Hardy Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio. In the fall of 1841, he came to Indiana and took up farming near Kendallville in Noble County. He and his wife were two of the original members of the Presbyterian church organized at Kendallville in May 1848. Mary Anna (Ingold) Cosper died on 17 November 1865 after which John went to live with one of his daughters. He died on 3 July 1872 and was buried beside his wife in Lakeview Cemetery, Kendallville.

John Cosper and Mary Anna Ingold raised a family of two sons and seven daughters of whom the following are known:

Elizabeth, born 18 June 1819, died 5 July 1860, married Ezra

Tryon Isbell on 24 December 1836, ten children with at least three sons and three daughters.
Martha Maria, born 5 March 1821, died 21 February 1896, married Philander Chatfield Isbell on 24 December 1838, six sons and two daughters.
William I., born 4 September 1822, died 29 September 1897, married Aurora Blair on 31 July 1849, at least one son and three daughters.
Rebecca, born 12 December 1825, died 16 October 1880, married William Broughton on 24 March 1844, five sons and two daughters.
James F., born 16 February 1829, died 6 November 1903, married 1) Emma Waterhouse on 6 September 1854, one adopted daughter, married 2) Mrs. Lucy A. (Palmer) Jones on 30 December 1900.
Matilda, born ca. 1830.
Hannah, born 24 May 1833, married 1) ... Sayer, married 2) William Broughton on 23 April 1881.

ELIAS COSPER, son of John Cospers and Martha Biddle, was born on 23 July 1795 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. When he was about thirteen years of age, the family moved to Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood. In the early 1820's, he migrated to Wayne Co., Ohio and settled initially in Wooster Township. He married Anne Smith on 16 March 1826 in Wayne Co. and at about the same time took up farming in East Union Twp., Wayne County. Anne (Smith) Cospers died on 16 May 1831 leaving three children:

Susan, born 29 April 1827, died 20 September 1833.

Martha, born 14 March 1829, died 28 November 1846, married Israel Gordon on 28 January 1846.

James, born 13 March 1831.

Elias Cospers married Eleanor Shirt, daughter of John Shirt, on 1 March 1832 in Wayne County. She was born in 1809. In 1833, they purchased land in Hardy Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio, and farmed there for about nine years. In about 1842, they migrated to Indiana and farmed near Kendallville in Noble County. Eleanor (Shirt) Cospers died on 9 August 1843 in Indiana. Her children were:

John, born 29 November 1832, died 4 June 1855.

William, ...

Levi, born 3 March 1836, died 11 November 1881, married 1) Mrs. Sarah Alive (Brenner) Cospers on 19 November 1865, one daughter, married 2) Sarah Ellen Barron on 5 December 1872, one son and two daughters.

Elizabeth, born 25 April 1838, died 23 March 1905, married Samuel Brode Butts on 18 November 1855, six sons and three daughters.

Lewis, born 21 April 1841, died 27 February 1863, married Sarah Alive Brenner on 12 April 1862, one daughter.

Amos, born 21 July 1843, died 1901, married Mary L. Leffingwell on 12 February 1870.

Elias Cospers returned briefly to Ohio and married Mrs. Mary Bennett, a widow with a young daughter, on 21 May 1844 in Knox County. She was born on 29 August 1806 in New York. After their marriage, they returned to Indiana. This union produced three children:

Jane or Jennie, born 13 March 1845, died 23 October 1925, married 1) Charles Henry Wilder on 11 March 1866, one daughter, married 2)

Samuel Scott on 3 October 1889, no children.

Elias T., born 12 March 1848, died 4 April 1917, married 1) Mary J.

Stacey on 28 March 1872, one son and one daughter, married 2)

Sarah L. Moore on 19 June 1884, no children.

Charles Carpenter, born 21 March 1852, died 10 December 1929,

married Amanda M. Dewitt on 29 February 1876, one son and one daughter.

Elias Cospers moved from the Kendallville area to West Greenfield Twp., LaGrange Co., Indiana, sometime prior to 1850. A few years later, he moved again to Jamestown Twp., Steuben Co., Indiana (P. O. Crooked Creek). During the years 1862-1864, he served two terms as Trustee of Jamestown Twp., an elective office. In the spring of 1864, he and his son, Levi, purchased large tracts of farm land in neighboring Mill Grove Twp., about two miles east of Orland. This farm totaled 272 acres, a large holding for that time. Elias Cospers did not live long enough to witness the development of his new farm. He died on 9 November 1866, and his heirs soon sold the land. Only six of his twelve children survived him. His widow survived him by almost sixteen years. She lived with her daughter, Jennie Wilder near Orland for some years before her death on 31 October 1882. She is buried beside her husband in Memorial Grove Cemetery, Orland, Indiana.

DANIEL COSPER, youngest son of John Cospers and Martha Biddle, was born on 3 May 1799 in New Jersey, probably in Morris County. At the age of about nine years, he moved with his parents to Columbia Co., Pennsylvania. He married Margaret Marr on 9 May 1799 at Milton, Northumberland Co., Pennsylvania. She was born on 18 July 1799 at Milton. In about 1823, they came to Ohio and settled on a farm in East Union Twp., Wayne Co. near two of Daniel's brothers. They remained in that location about ten years. Around 1834, they moved to Prairie Twp., Holmes Co., Ohio, and farmed there for about twenty years. Sometime during the 1850's, Daniel Cospers returned to Wayne Co. where he operated a general store in Fredericksburg with two of his sons until his death on 8 February 1862. Margaret (Marr) Cospers died on 7 November 1866. Both are buried near Fredericksburg in an old cemetery west of town. The children of Daniel Cospers and Margaret Marr were:

Sarah Ann, born 20 March 1821, died ca. 1887, married James Peterman, ten children with at least two sons and three daughters.

Amos Britton, born 18 July 1822, married 1) Elizabeth Stump on 16 October 1847, one daughter, married 2) Mary Jane Wilson on 17 March 1853, at least one son and one daughter.

Elias, born 19 March 1824, died 12 October 1900, married Eliza McMonigal on 8 March 1849, three sons and four daughters.

Margaret, born 8 July 1826, married ... McLain (or McLennan).

Angeline, born 18 May 1827, died 20 August 1868, married Kenneth McLennan on 3 November 1847, at least one daughter.

David, born 29 October 1828, died 18 February 1904, married Martha Jane Frederick on 5 April 1857, seven sons.

Daniel, born 26 April 1831, died 1 December 1906, married Ann E. Bennett ca. 1855, seven sons and four daughters.

GRANDSONS OF JOHN COSPER

JOHN P. COSPER, son of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 16 September 1806 in Tompkins Co., New York. He remained in New York near Havanna when the rest of his family migrated into Pennsylvania. He married Elizabeth Clark who died in about 1836. This union produced at least one son:

George Mills, born 25 January 1836, died 31 July 1919, married Caroline M. Markle on 3 July 1865, one daughter.

John P. Cospers came to Ohio and settled near other members of his family in Knox County. There, he was married to Jane Marihan on 1 March 1838. They remained in Ohio for several years before moving to northern Illinois sometime prior to 1852. John P. Cospers died in northern Illinois, apparently in the Rockford-Beloit area. The known children of John P. Cospers and Jane Marihan were:

William Wesley, born 8 January 1842, died 30 November 1908, married Elizabeth Hill on 18 November 1862, two sons and two daughters.

Rill, married Levi Bennett.

James Addison, born 30 September 1852, died 19 May 1924, married Kathryn Aveline Young on 18 October 1877, five sons and four daughters.

Also believed to have been a son of this marriage was:

Jason Monroe, born 21 August 1845, died 21 June 1882, married 1)

Carrie E. Walling, apparently no children, married 2) Eliza Margaret Burwash on 19 March 1879, no children.

CHARLES COSPER, son of David Cospers and Elizabeth Erway, was born on 4 August 1808 in Tioga Co., New York, where he spent his childhood. In about 1825, he accompanied his family to Pennsylvania where they settled near Westfield, Tioga County. There, he was married in about 1829 to Lucinda Weeks, daughter of William Weeks. She was born on 11 June 1811 in Vermont. In about 1832, Charles Cospers returned to New York and took up farming near Catlin in Chemung County. Following the lead of his father and brother, he brought his family west in the spring of 1844 and settled in Wilmington Twp., DeKalb Co., Indiana. Over the years, he owned several pieces of land in DeKalb Co., but lost the largest in a suit brought against him by Hugh Maxwell, his eldest son's father-in-law. They also lived in Otsego Twp., Steuben Co., Indiana. In about 1865, Charles Cospers again journeyed west to settle near Shellrock, Freeborn Co., Minnesota, where he died on 11 June 1872. His widow, Lucinda, returned to Indiana to live near some of her children. She died on 10 October 1893 and was buried at Hamilton, Steuben Co., Indiana. Charles Cospers was a Whig and Republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The children of Charles Cospers and Lucinda Weeks were:

Ransom, born 16 August 1830, died 10 August 1860, married Jane Maxwell on 27 February 1853, one son.

Elizabeth, born 15 July 1831, died 7 January 1887, married John Eakright on 6 February 1851.

Emeline, born 18 September 1833, died 20 January 1921, married ... Manley.

